

# NC Interpreter and Transliterater Licensing Board Meeting

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**Date:** Friday, May 15, 2026

**Location:** Durham, NC

Present: Mark Lineberger, Tara Knight, Alicia Griffin, Beverly Woodel, Dianne Sheaer, Pamela White, Nicole Alleman

Board absent: Herbie Aguilar

Interpreters: Karen Magoon, Kirk Fowler, Lee Williamson, Nicki Fox, Brian Tipton, Shana Batchelor (SSP), Lovetta Baker (CART)

General Public Present (Zoom): Kelle Owens, David Payne, Matt Baccari, Sarah Wheeler, Jolene Crooks, Kathleen Speckhardt, Paige Sprinkle, Jessica Bridges, Joane Mapas

Called to order – 10:09 am

Conflict of interest statement read and no conflicts heard.

## **Welcome and Introductions**

All went around and did a quick introduction.

## **Approval of Minutes**

**I move we approve the Board meeting minutes from March 6, 2026 as written Alicia, second Nicole. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carries.**

## **LRC Report**

Mark commented that there have not been any new complaints received and have no updates since the last meeting in March.

## **Legislative Liaison Report**

*HB 854*

The proposed changes to the statute bill is still in the rules committee in the senate. We have been working to communicate the need for this bill, and to hopefully get it passed this session. If anyone has any contacts people communicate with them so this bill can continue moving.

*Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*

1 Mark attended this meeting and reported back to the Board about this meeting. Some  
2 updates from DPI about data collection. Discussion of VRI use in the school system and  
3 third party interpreter agencies sending unqualified interpreters to the schools. The  
4 districts are all reporting different data, and all of the information needs to be reported  
5 accurately. A task force is being set up to assist with gathering information. Overall it was a  
6 good meeting for the council.

#### 7 *Licensure Requirements for Deaf Interpreters*

8 The Board received this letter from Donnie Dove, this letter is requesting the Board revisit  
9 the provisional license requirements for Deaf interpreters. Mark discussed the points  
10 outlined in the letter.

#### 11 *Suggested language:*

12 *A Deaf interpreter who has a two-year degree in interpreting or a related field and scores*  
13 *ASLPI Level 4 or SLPI Advanced Plus.*

14 Dianne talked about several other states to that have assessments and training for Deaf  
15 interpreters, and we could recognize and add these pathways to licensure.

16 Discussion of changes that could be added so that additional assessments could be added  
17 later as new assessments come along. Option to leave the language broad so we have  
18 flexibility in added new assessments.

19 Ben brought up the statute says “may” so it allows flexibility for the Board.

#### 20 *VRI Administrative Code (rule) Addition*

21 The Board talked about this at the last meeting, about adding a requirement for VRI  
22 interpreters to be licensed by the Board.

#### 23 *Proposed language:*

24 *An interpreter shall not provide Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) for an individual located in*  
25 *North Carolina before being licensed under NCGS 90D 21 NCAC 25 .0200*

26 The Board could work on adding this rule by working through the rulemaking process. This  
27 is especially important at this time, this will have an impact on the educational system due  
28 to the use of VRI in the school system. This proposed change would require anyone  
29 providing VRI to anyone in NC they would need to be licensed by this Board. Discussion  
30 about how the Board will be able to keep tabs on interpreters who are not licensed is still  
31 providing VRI. Mark commented that other states that require this, the people providing  
32 VRI obtain the license with the state it is needed.

1 Discussion about various settings and instances of using VRI.

2 *Break – 11:05 am*

3 *Reconvened 11:13 am*

4 **I move we adopt the suggested language for a rule that would require VRI interpreters**  
5 **to be licensed by the Board and have this language move through the rulemaking**  
6 **process, Mark, second Pam. Discussion of where the language would go in the rules**  
7 **and a definition of VRI would be added to the definitions. Discussion about adopting**  
8 **the NAD language of a VRI interpreter was discussed as an option. All in favor. Motion**  
9 **carries.**

10 *Letter of Support*

11 We were requested to write a letter of support for a grant that is being written. NC state is  
12 seeking a grant to provide training to support interpreters in rural areas. They have asked  
13 for support from DSDHH and they asked this Board as well. They did outline what they are  
14 doing to assist with the training in rural areas.

15 **I move that the Board send a letter of support so that the requesters from NC state can**  
16 **attach it with their grant request to support interpreters and training in rural NC, Mark,**  
17 **second Alicia. All in favor. Motion carries.**

18 **Financial Report**

19 *Financial Report through April 30, 2026*

20 Caitlin discussed the current financials and commented the Board is in a good place  
21 currently with their spending trends.

22 **Central Office Report**

23 **NCITLB Central Office Report (Compiled May 12, 2026)**

| Type of License | Number of Licensees (May 2026) | Percentage (May 2026) | Number of Licensees (May 2025) | Percentage (May 2025) |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Full            | 365                            | 82%                   | 352                            | 79%                   |
| Grandfathered   | 26                             | 6%                    | 28                             | 6%                    |
| Provisional     | 54                             | 12%                   | 68                             | 15%                   |

|                     |            |             |            |             |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>Total Number</b> | <b>445</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>448</b> | <b>100%</b> |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|

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|                                                                                                          |                                     |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Licenses issued since last Board meeting (March 6, 2026)</b>                                          |                                     | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>Qualified for <u>full</u> license by</b>                                                              |                                     |             |
| <b>RID Certification</b>                                                                                 | 2                                   | 75%         |
| <b>Cued Language Certificate</b>                                                                         | -                                   | -           |
| <b>BEI Assessment of Advanced or above</b>                                                               | 1                                   | 25%         |
| <b>Total Full Licenses Issued</b>                                                                        | <b>3</b>                            | <b>100%</b> |
| <b>Qualified for <u>provisional</u> licensure by</b>                                                     |                                     |             |
| <b>2-year degree &amp; EIPA score of 3.5 or above</b><br><b>EIPA Scores for the issued licenses: 3.7</b> | 1                                   | 33.3%       |
| <b>2-year degree &amp; BEI score of Basic</b>                                                            | -                                   | -           |
| <b>Accumulated Hours</b>                                                                                 | 2                                   | 66.6%       |
| <b>DSDHH DI Program</b>                                                                                  | -                                   | -           |
| <b>Recognized credential from another state</b>                                                          | -                                   | -           |
| <b>Total Provisional Licenses Issued</b>                                                                 | <b>3</b>                            | <b>100%</b> |
| <b>Licenses pending to be issued</b>                                                                     | <b>5 (2 full and 3 provisional)</b> |             |

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| <b>School</b>                    | <b>Total Number of Current Licensees</b> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| UNCG                             | 17                                       |
| Wilson Community College         | 5                                        |
| Columbus State Community College | 1                                        |
| Eastern Kentucky University      | 1                                        |
| Garner Webb                      | 1                                        |
| Hinds Community College          | 1                                        |
| Kent State University            | 1                                        |
| University of Texas at Austin    | 1                                        |

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Western Piedmont Community College | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>29</b> |

**Comments:**

- Working with Certemy to make adjustments to the license renewal CEU submission step.
- All other business as usual.

**Symposium Discussion**

Mark commented that the symposium would follow the same schedule as the same time it was last year. Mark discussed the proposed outline in more detail. The exact educational session on Friday night is “TBD” and the sessions for Saturday are set. Working on scheduling interpreters and opening registration.

Caitlin has secured the Downtown Greensboro Marriott and will work with the Board and interpreters to secure rooms in the coming weeks.

**Legal Update**

There is not a lot to update right now. The one thing that Ben mentioned was a turnover in the supreme court about agencies interpreting their own rules. The Board should make sure its administrative code is clear to avoid any issues.

**Periodic Rules Review**

Ben commented that up this point no public comments have been received.

**I move that if there are no public comments through June 1, 2026, that the Board approve the rules for the periodic rules review and continue on in the process Mark, second Pam. No discussion. All in favor. Motion carries.**

*Break for lunch 11:51 am*

*Reconvened 12:38 pm*

**Review of Action Items**

| #                           | Owner(s)                                                     | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Report/Due date          | Status  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 1                           | Board                                                        | Determine language that would require licensure for VRI interpreters.                                                                                                                                                            | May 15, 2026             |         |
|                             | Dianne, Mark, David Payne (Adhoc member)                     | Dianne to reach out to Massachusetts and schedule a meeting about their assessment to see if this could be added as an option for a pathway to licensure.                                                                        | TBD – test being revised | On hold |
|                             | New Board Member Representing Cued Language Translitterators | Reach out to DSDHH and the TECUnit about bringing back the state level assessment for Cued Language Translitterators.                                                                                                            | TBD                      | On hold |
| <b>Ongoing action items</b> |                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                          |         |
|                             | Bev, Dianne, and Alicia                                      | Subcommittee to have open communication with DSDHH for community outreach.                                                                                                                                                       |                          |         |
|                             | Caitlin                                                      | Continue to compile: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools provisional licensees are obtaining degrees from</li> <li>• current licensee EIPA scores.</li> <li>• When provisional licensees move up to full</li> </ul> |                          |         |
|                             | Mark, Pam White, Dianne                                      | Committee to determine revisions to be made to the law (GS 90D).                                                                                                                                                                 |                          |         |

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2 #1 Already discussed earlier in the meeting.

3 The next two items are in a holding pattern for now.

4 The rest of the action items are ongoing.

5 **New Business (if any)**

6 None brought forward.

7 I move we adjourn, Dianne.

8 Adjourned – 12:40 pm